
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION ON ETHICS JANUARY 27, 2005

Present: Council Members – Campos, Chavez, Chirco, Cortese, LeZotte, Pyle, Reed, Williams, Yeager; Gonzales.

Absent: Council Members – None.

Staff: City Manager Del Borgsdorf, City Attorney Richard Doyle, City Clerk Lee Price, Legislative Secretary Evonne Wilson.

Documents Filed: Powerpoint presentation entitled: “Ethics Beyond Compliance”, dated January 27 and 28, 2005, copyright 2004 Josephson Institute.

Mayor Gonzales called the meeting to order at 10:44 a.m.

Summary of the new Lobbyist, Revolving Door and Gift Ordinances

City Attorney Doyle summarized the newly revised lobbyist, revolving door and gift ordinances and acknowledged the Blue Ribbon Task Force for their hard work and efforts in working on these ordinances and addressing concerns brought forth by the Council and Community in relation to ethics.

Discussion on Gift Ordinance

Mayor Gonzales requested the City Attorney’s Office to report back to Council on an update regarding the Family Gift Form and individual contributions.

Council Member Cortese asked the City Attorney’s Office to provide a list of hypothetical situations that covers scenarios addressing ethics and how these would affect Council Members. City Attorney Doyle stated his office could provide a list of scenarios as a guide for Council.

Discussion on Lobbyist Ordinance

Vice Mayor Chavez expressed her concerns on the definition of a lobbyist and how this term could actually apply to bids and more specifically, to teams submitting their Resources for Proposals (RFPs). She asked the City Attorney’s Office if they could clarify if all members on teams submitting their RFPs should be listed on the proposals prior to being submitted for evaluation to ensure all RFPs are following the rules and that lobbyist services aren’t impeding on the RFP process. City Attorney Doyle commented that her concerns were currently being integrated into the RFP process as part of the Management Reforms, which will return to Council at a later date.



City Council Study Session on Ethics (Cont'd.)

Discussion on the Revolving Door Policy

Mayor Gonzales asked the City Attorney's Office to provide a gameplan as to how the Gift Ordinance, Lobbyist Ordinance and Revolving Door Policy would be provided to all City staff and suggested the City Attorney's Office work closely with Council throughout the Budget Study Sessions.

Public Comments

- 1) Ross Signorino suggested an informational document be sent to organizations and sponsors who conduct business with the City in order to adhere to the gift ordinance.
- 2) An unidentified speaker inquired as to the timeline of when disclosure reports will be made available to the public.
- 3) Dawn Wright requested clarification on the gift and lobbyist ordinance.

The Council of the City of San Jose recessed at 11:47 a.m. and reconvened at 12:28 p.m.

Principles of Public Service Ethics

Consultant Michael Josephson provided an extensive and interactive workshop, entitled: "Ethics Beyond Compliance focusing on the role of the Mayor and City Council as elected officials and their key responsibilities in maintaining the public's trust, including a discussion about the issues, concerns, and dilemmas

Adjournment

The Council of the City of San José adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

RON GONZALES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

LEE PRICE, C.M.C, CITY CLERK

EW/1-27-05 Ethics Study Session Min.